



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER #4 • TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Compatriot Roy Leonard, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Sep-Oct 2018



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

At our September Chapter Meeting on September 19th, our Guest Speaker was a National Hero — Colonel Thomas McNish, USAF (Retired), a Combat Pilot, and POW for 6 Years in North Vietnam. Following his retirement from active duty, Colonel McNish joined Biodynamic Research Corporation performing over 2,000 aircraft accident investigations. His remarks focused on specific insights to his imprisonment in North Vietnam sharing his thoughts on coping with life while a prisoner and his future release at the end of the Vietnam War. **More on Page 2.**

Our District Vice President, Stuart Hoyt also attended our September Chapter Meeting to bring greeting from State President Thomas Jackson. **More on Page 2.**

The Texas Society Board of Managers Meeting was held in New Braunfels October 12-14, 2018. Members of our Chapter who joined me at this meeting included Compatriots Stephen Rohrbough, James Taylor, Henry Garcia, Dustin Whittenburg and Edward Butler. We received many awards for services provided at the 128th National Society Annual Congress in Houston in July. These awards speak well of our chapter and the hard work of many of our members who serve on our Executive Committee and our numerous Chapter Committees.

With October being SAR's Public Service Awards Month, our Guest Speaker was Chief Douglas Berry who is a 21 year veteran of the San Antonio Fire Department. As the Tactical Services Division Chief, he spoke about how this Division provides surveillance throughout the greater San Antonio area whereby a Response Force can be dispatched immediately to any situation. Chief Berry was presented the SAR Certificate of Appreciation. We recognized 3 outstanding Awardees with SAR's Public Service Awards. Specifics about their community service is provided on **Pages 3-4.**

We continue to receive a steady stream of referrals of prospective members interested in membership from our State Organization. To relieve the load from our Registrar and our Genealogist, I have solicited members of DAR who are skilled in preparing SAR Applications. They have completed four applications and are still working hard to get as many completed as they can before the end of the year.

As we come to the end of this year, all members need to report any meetings, presentations or other activities that qualify for submission in our President General Americanism Report. If you have any questions about what qualifies, contact President-Elect Dustin Whittenburg.

We are planning our next GALA. This event will be held in January at the Petroleum Club in San Antonio. For more details, see the "Save the Date" section below. I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and hope you will have a wonderful time with your family and friends.

Respectfully, *Roy Leonard*

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL GALA

The Chapter's Gala Banquet will be on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at the Petroleum Club at 6:00 P.M. Our Keynote Speaker will be Lt. General Richard E. "Tex" Brown, USAF (Retired). Texas SAR President Tom Jackson will also be present to Induct our Officers for 2018.

Our primary purpose is to have fun and share in fellowship with many of our members who usually cannot attend our monthly Chapter Meetings during the work week.

A Chapter News Release will be sent in mid-December reminding members to make their Reservations!

Save the Date!

**San Antonio SAR
Chapter GALA**

**Saturday
January 19, 2019
6:00 PM**

SPEAKER FOR SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

(Photo at Right) Colonel Thomas McNish, USAF (Retired), a Combat Pilot, POW for 6 Years in North Vietnam, a Board Certified Physician in Family Practice, Preventive Medicine and Aerospace Medicine, a Pilot Physician, a Commander of 833rd Medical Group Holloman AFB and Command Surgeon, Office of Air Force Reserve. His decorations include the Silver Star w/2 OLCs.

Following his retirement from active duty, Colonel McNish joined Biodynamic Research Corporation performing over 2,000 aircraft accident investigations.

His remarks addressed specific insights of his imprisonment in North Vietnam and his thoughts on coping with life while a prisoner and his future release at the end of the Vietnam War. He addressed how communications were made between fellow prisoner's despite their separation into separate cells. He stated that what kept him going was his faith belief that he would be freed and returned home.



DISTRICT #3 VICE PRESIDENT VISITS CHAPTER

(Photo at Left) Texas Society's Vice President Stuart Hoyt, and Past President of the William Hightower SAR Chapter in New Braunfels, visited the Chapter to bring greetings from Texas President Thomas Jackson and speak about the goals and initiatives being worked at the state level.

Most importantly, he invited members to attend the Texas Society's Board of Managers Meeting that will be held on October 12-14 in New Braunfels.

Hoyt remarked that the Tomahawk that he was holding was up for auction as a fund raiser for the William Hightower Chapter. Surprisingly, the subsequent drawing resulted in our newest Chapter member Brian Kerr as the winner of the Tomahawk.

Compatriot Hoyt currently serves as the Texas Society Color Guard Commander.



Chapter Participates in Naturalization Event

On October 23rd the San Antonio Chapter participated in the Naturalization Ceremony for two foreign national candidates who are

currently serving in the U.S. Army as students at Ft. Sam Houston to become as medical service technicians upon graduation.

(Photo at Left) To open the ceremony, our Color Guard presented the National and State Colors. Shown (Left to Right) are Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough (Guardsmen for US Flag), Commander Frank Rohrbough (US Flag Bearer) and Compatriot Roy Leonard (Flagbearer for Texas Flag).



(Photo at Right) Colonel, USAF (Ret.) Frank Rohrbough, Past President of the

San Antonio Chapter, was the Guest Speaker. He spoke on the foundation of our country with the ratification of the Constitution by the States. He remarked on how his Patriot Ancestors supported the cause of the American Revolution.

Having successfully completed their instructions for citizenship, the candidates were administered the Oath of Allegiance to the United States and became United States citizens. Following Colonel Rohrbough's remarks, he presented each new citizen their Certificate of Citizenship.



CHAPTER RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARDS AT THE TEXAS SOCIETY BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

President Roy Leonard noted at the October Chapter Meeting that our Chapter could be very proud of what we have achieved in service to the our community. Due to the able leadership of Past President Larry Loop, our Chapter received several Awards at the recent Board of Managers Meeting held in New Braunfels in October 12-14, 2018.

President Leonard recalled that we had 6 chapter members attend the 128th National Congress in Houston, TX during the period of July 13 –18 to assist the Texas Society host this event. These included Former President-General Edward Butler (2008-2009), Past Chaplain General James Taylor, Former VPG South Central District Stephen Rohrbough, Former Chapter President Frank Rohrbough, Current Chapter President Roy Leonard and Compatriot Bob Brady.

Under the skilled leadership of Texas Society President Thomas Jackson, the newly elected President-General Warren Alder congratulated the Texas Society for hosting the Annual Congress in a truly outstanding fashion which made the event a great success for all attendees.

President Leonard noted that we received several National Society Awards at the 128th National Congress. Most of the Awards were for individual service during the 128th National Congress. (**See Page 6 for more details.**) Notably, the Chapter, based on size, was awarded an Honorable Mention in the **USS Stark Memorial Award** for best record of service to veterans during 2016-2017. Because of NSSAR rules, a chapter may not receive consecutive yearly Awards and thus is recognized of their work as an Honorable Mention recipient.

These results speak well of our chapter and the hard work of many of our members who serve on our Executive Committee and one of our numerous Chapter Committees. Congratulations Compatriots!

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS GIVEN TO LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS



The San Antonio Chapter of the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution recognized some of San Antonio's finest First Responders at its Public Service Awards Luncheon on October 17, 2018. The San Antonio Chapter has recognized members of the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) annually for the past 21 years by awarding them the SAR Public Service Medals and Certificates. At this year's luncheon, 3 individuals were recognized for their extraordinary service to the San Antonio community. A total of 13 firefighters and family members attended this Public Service Awards Luncheon.

At far left is Fireman Brian Todd McEnery, Supervisor of Award Recipients and a SAR Chapter member. Shown from Left to Right are Captain John Flores (Fire Safety Award) and Firefighter Jesse Hinojosa (Fire Safety Award) and their families. (**Cont'd on Page 4**)

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS (CONT'D)

(Photo at Right) Our Guest Speaker was Chief Douglas Berry who is a 21-year veteran of the San Antonio Fire Department. He has been a peace officer in the state of Texas for 23 years, and he is a graduate of Texas A&M University San Antonio with a Bachelors degree in Fire and EMS Administration. He is currently assigned as the Tactical Services Division Chief and oversees Special Event Planning, the Arson Bureau and the Fusion Center. President Roy Leonard presented Chief Berry with Chapter Good Citizenship Medallion and Certificate.



The Awards Program was planned and conducted under the stewardship of Compatriot Peter Baron. Through his work, 3 outstanding Awardees were recognized with SAR's Public Service Awards as noted below.



Chapter President Roy Leonard recognized two distinguished SAFD Firefighters with the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal. They are Firefighters Captain John Flores **(Photo at Left)** and Firefighter Jesse Hinojosa **(Photo at Right)**. Captain Flores entered the San Antonio Fire Department in 2001 where he has served in the Fire Suppression and EMS Divisions. Firefighter Hinojosa



entered the San Antonio Fire Department in 2015 serving in the Fire Suppression Division.

Their Citation reads in part: "On the Night of September 3rd, P38 was dispatched to a high water rescue. A vehicle was trapped in high water and inaccessible. P38 positioned its areal platform to rescue two trapped victims from the roof of their submerged vehicle. Both victims were lifted to safety without injury due to the training, expertise, and leadership exhibited by P38. It is this dedication to service and self-sacrifice that resonates throughout the Department. Their actions reflect great credit on Themselves, the San Antonio Fire Department and the Citizens of San Antonio."



(Photo at Left) President Leonard presented the SAR Emergency Medical Service Commendation Medal to SAFD Engineer David Nielsen. He has served the citizens of San Antonio as a firefighter in the Fire Suppression Division, as a field Paramedic in the Emergency Medical Services Division, and currently is assigned to the Medical Special Operations Unit (MSOU) on Medic 1C.

Since he entered the San Antonio Fire Department 2007, he has contributed to the success of the San Antonio Fire Department Emergency Medical Services Division. His knowledge and work ethic are a positive example to everyone he meets. Engineer Nielsen's commitment to service is evident in all he meets, instructs, and treats.

He has been instrumental in the implementation of multiple groundbreaking techniques, most recently the advancement of i-STAT capable ambulances. His position on the MSOU has provided advance medical care to multiple responses by the SAPD SWAT, Bomb, and Executive Protection details.

Engineer Nielsen has provided a valued service to the Emergency Medical Services Division. His actions have improved morale and improved patient care which reflects great credit on Himself, the San Antonio Fire Department and the Citizens of San Antonio. Engineer Nielsen was recognized for his dedicated services on the 17th Day of October 2018 by the San Antonio Chapter, of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution.

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

On September 19th at our Chapter Meeting, President Roy Leonard inducted two new members into SAR and the San Antonio Chapter. They were Jason Todd Bushman and Robert Watson. **(Photo at Right)** Following his Induction, President Leonard presented Jason Bushman his Certificate and Application. Bushman's Patriot Ancestor is Charles Crawford Lewis, Sgt, North Carolina Militia. Looking on is Compatriot Frank Rohrbough who sponsored Jason and pinned the SAR Lapel Pin on his coat.



(Photo Below) Following his induction, President



Leonard presented Robert Watson his Certificate and Application. Watson's Patriot Ancestor is William Augustus Atlee who served as the Chairman of the Committee of Public Safety of Lancaster, PA, Observation and Inspection Commissary of British Prisoners confined at Lancaster, PA, and appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of PA 1777. Looking on is Watson's wife Cindy and his sponsor Past President Larry Loop.

At our Chapter Meeting on October 17th, President Leonard inducted

three more members into SAR. They were Christian H. Hummel, his son Christian W. Hummel and Lee Wyatt Morris **(Photo at Right)** Christian (Chris) Hummel (Father) and Christian Hummel (Son) were presented their Certificates and Applications by President Leonard. Their Patriot Ancestor is Benjamin Ward who was a Private in the 3rd Regiment South Carolina Dragoons.



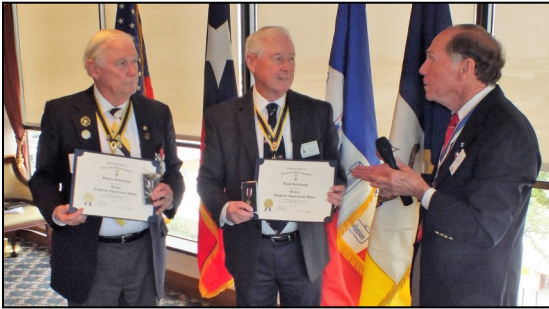
(Photo at Left) President

Leonard inducted Lee Wyatt Morris and presented him with his Certificate and Application. His Patriot Ancestor is John Parker. Compatriot Peter Baron pinned the SAR Lapel Pin on Morris' coat.

Following the inductions, each inductee gave brief remarks about their Patriot Ancestor and what they did during the American Revolution.



CHAPTER MEMBERS RECEIVE SPECIAL AWARDS



(Photo at Left) Compatriots Stephen and Frank Rohrbough were presented Bronze Congress Appreciation Medal and Certificate for their service as Day Captains for the National Society Annual Congress that was conducted by the Texas Society in Houston, TX July 12-18, 2018. As Day Captains they responded to any tasking related to the activities during the Meeting or questions or issues that were raised by SAR members attending the Congress. The Awards were picked up by President Leonard at the Board of Mangers Meeting that was held in New Braunfels in October 12-14, 2018 and

presented at the October Chapter Meeting. **(Photo at Right)** Compatriot David Brooks, Chairman of the Veterans Committee, presented the Certificate for the USS Stark Memorial Award to the San Antonio Chapter for its support of veterans. This Award was given by the Texas Society for the highest total point count reported by a Chapter on its Stark Report for 2017. This Award recognizes the work done at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital by the following members of our Chapter: Compatriots Bud Davenport, David Brooks, Frank Rohrbough, Stephen Rohrbough, Richard Weitzel, Richard Wright, Michael Bowles, Peter Baron and Gerald Ball.



REFLECTION OF A FOUNDING FATHER

When the people fear the government, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty." ~ Thomas Jefferson

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Chapter Meeting: Petroleum Club (7th Floor). Next Chapter Meeting will be held on November 14th. Reservations are required via reservations@sarsat.org. (Out of normal cycle due to Thanksgiving)

Joint DAR-SAR Christmas Luncheon: This annual event will be held at the San Antonio Country Club on December 1st. Reservations must be received at San Antonio de Bexar DAR via P.O. Box 781045, San Antonio, Tx 78278 NLT November 26th.

Alamo Chapter DAR Monument Dedication to 1st Responders: Dec. 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m. 126 E. Navarro St, San Antonio. RSVP by

Nov. 27 to (832) 498-9519.

Next Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: December 6, 2018, 11:30 AM, at Chester's at 16609 San Pedro (Hwy 281, N. and Thousand Oaks)

December Chapter Meeting: Petroleum Club (7th Floor) on 2nd Wednesday, December 12th at 11:30 A.M to 1:00 P.M. This is a change from our usual Meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Reservations are required via reservations@sarsat.org.(Out of normal cycle due to Christmas)

George Washington Parade in Laredo, TX: Saturday, February 16, 2019 at 9:00 AM (All Participants

must sign a Release Form and send it to Tom Green at TBGreen3@gmail.com NLT December 31st).

Operation Ancestry Research: Training Sessions will be announced as they are scheduled. Wounded Warrior Family Support Ctr., Ft. Sam Houston, TX; (All Members are invited to participate.) (Peter Baron)

For more information, go to **SASAR Chapter Website:**

<http://www.sarsat.org>